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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Pitzele et al.

GROUP ART UNIT: 1621

SERIAL NO.: 09/834,815

EXAMINER: Paul Zucker

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FOR: 2-Amino-3, 4 Heptenoic Compounds Useful as Nitric Oxide Synthase Inhibitors

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington D.C., 20231.

Philip B. Polster II
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Date: July 17 2002

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JUL 25 2002

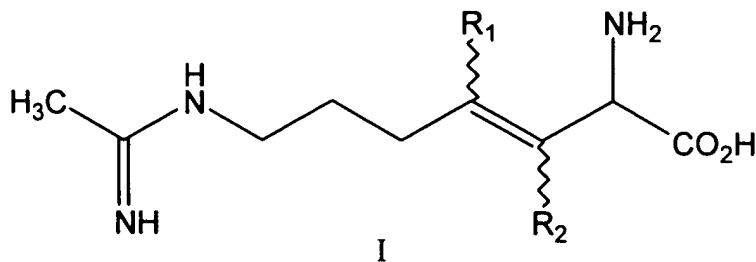
The Official letter mailed April 17, 2002 has been received, and in response **TECH CENTER 1600/290** thereto the following Amendment A is respectfully submitted.

In the Specification:

should be on separate page ✓ Please delete the Abstract, and replace with the following Abstract:

Abstract

The present invention is directed to a compound of formula I:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

R₁ is selected from the group consisting of H and methyl; and

R₂ is selected from the group consisting of H and methyl.